



Front Country Trails Multi-Jurisdictional Task Force

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AGENDA DATE: March 3, 2010

TO: Front Country Trails Multi-Jurisdictional Task Force

FROM: Front Country Trails Task Force Staff

SUBJECT: Trail Survey Project Update

RECOMMENDATION: That the Front Country Trails (FCT) Multi-Jurisdictional Task Force receives a status report on the Trail Survey Project.

DISCUSSION:

The purpose of this staff report is to provide the Task Force with an update on the Trail Survey Project. At the December 2, 2009 Task Force meeting, staff presented information on Universal Trail Assessment Process (UTAP) cost, volunteer participation, and progress on Cold Spring Trail.

During nine days of survey work (November 2009 – January 2010), staff and volunteers completed approximately two miles of surveys along the Cold Spring Trail. The pilot project has taken longer than originally expected due to inexperience of the volunteers working as a crew and the amount of time required to reach the start location for each day of surveying. Although the scope of the pilot project originally included the survey of two trails, the pilot project will be limited to 2.75 miles of Cold Spring Trail. Despite volunteer assistance, the extensive time required to collect the trail data has increased the cost of the project. Before continuing with additional trail survey work, staff will evaluate the value of the data for use in trail maintenance and management.

The remaining 0.75 miles will be surveyed in March 2010. Trail data will be entered using the TrailWare software. Staff will present the report and analysis as well as recommendations regarding moving forward with the trail survey project at the June 2, 2010 Task Force meeting.

The volunteers have played a valuable role to date. Their time and talent are greatly appreciated.

PREPARED BY: Kathy Frye, Natural Areas Planner, City of Santa Barbara

APPROVED BY: Jill E. Zachary, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director